



Tree configuration of BBMDs...

With a non-trivial number of subnets that would like to operate together as a single BACnet network, there are a variety of topologies that could be used in the relationship between BBMDs. *The different configurations change the way the BBMDs communicate with each other (if at all) and the way they maintain their relationship as supervisors of the BACnet network.* One basic solution is to mirror the IGMP topology and the original topology of the Internet, a star.

There are some advantages to using a star:

- a device similar to routers already defined by the standard can be used (little re-engineering)
- each BBMD only needs to know a single 'parent' and a small number of 'children'
- additional BBMDs can be added easily
- messages are not duplicated on a network

And there are some disadvantages:

- a link failure can lead to branches of the tree being broken
- a dynamic topology is more complicated than it needs to be